



Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office
1955 Freemont Avenue
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415

August 26, 2005

Mr. Nicholas Ceto, INL Project Manager
EPA Region 10
309 Bradley Landing, Suite 115
Richland, WA 99352

Mr. Daryl F. Koch, FFA/CO Manager
Waste Management and Remediation Division
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

SUBJECT: Request for Extension of Schedule to Treat Mercury-Contaminated Soil and for Use of Staging, Storage, Sizing and Treatment Facility (SSSTF) Soil Staging Pile at the INL CERCLA Disposal Facility (ICDF) (FMDP-RFDP-05-081)

Dear Mr. Ceto and Mr. Koch:


This letter is DOE's request for a 6-month extension of the period of usage for the staging pile of mercury-contaminated soils at the Staging, Storage, Sizing and Treatment Facility (SSSTF). The staging pile was first populated with this soil on September 15, 2003, so the two-year active time period will expire on September 15, 2005. An extension is requested through March 15, 2006.

This extension is required due to the unforeseen difficulties bringing the SSSTF on line and the productivity of treatment operations. The facility experienced an abnormal amount of construction and startup difficulties that delayed its initial operations more than a year, commencing in July 2005. As a new facility, we can anticipate further difficulties during initial operations. Also, the treatment process has proven to be less efficient than anticipated, reducing our productivity by 30% to 50% from what was expected. We are presently perfecting the treatment recipe to increase our productivity. Therefore, the treatment of the mercury-contaminated soils will take significantly longer than anticipated.

With the current four-day-per-week schedule and using the best production rate achieved thus far, the expected completion date for treatment of the mercury-contaminated soils would be February 28, 2006. However, to account for unforeseeable events such as potential weather delays, equipment breakdowns, and other unforeseeable events, we request a full 6-month extension to March 15, 2006.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (208) 526-5793 or jensenr@id.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nolan R. Jensen", written over a horizontal line.

Nolan R. Jensen, FFA/CO Project Manager
Idaho Cleanup Project

cc: D. Einan, EPA Region X, 309 Bradley Landing, Suite 115, Richland, WA 99352
T. Livieratos, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706
Mike Spomer, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706

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CONCURRENCE:

EM *me*
OCC *N/A.*

RECORD NOTES:

1. This letter requests an extension of schedule to treat mercury contaminated soil and for use of the SSSTF soil staging pile at the INL CERCLA Disposal Facility (ICDF). Both EPA and DEQ have agreed to this extension in principle and know this request is coming.
2. *NJ* N Jensen prepared this letter.
3. This letter/memo closes OATS item 12568.
4. The attached correspondence has no relation to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Naval Reactors concurrence is not required.